GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3656
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2000
CELLULAR TELEPHONE SERVICE BY MTNL.
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the MTNL`s cellular telephone service suffers from frequent ruptures due to `Dropped calls`;

(b) If so, whether the MTNL has not been able to solve this problem so far;

(c) If so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) The details of steps the MTNL proposes to take to improve its cellular service?

Answer

Minister of State for Communications

(Shri. Tapan Sikdar)

(a) The present Cellular Telephone service provided by MTNL is by using CDMA technology.At the time of launch of this service, a diagram indicating the coverage to be provided by this service was provided to all the subscribers and it was also published in the newspapers. The reasons for this limited coverage was because of the non-contiguous area between different base stations.

(b) & (c) After the launch of this service by using CDMA technology, different aspects like network topology, traffic pattern have been studied and on the basis of these inputs, MTNL is taking appropriate action for increasing the coverage area.Number of base stations is being increased from 5 to 9, so that we have more or less a contiguous area coverage.

(d)
(i) the plan is to increase the number of base stations as mentioned in reply to (b) & (c).

(ii) In addition to these Mobile Telephones, numbering around 5600, MTNL is proposing to increase the number of Mobile Telephones to 6500. Besides this, a 30K Mobile Telephone provision is also being made by commissioning equipment using the same CDMA technology in Delhi. This equipment is likely to be installed in a period of 6 months time. MTNL is also in the process of commissioning 100 K lines GSM Cellular Mobile system in Delhi.It will provide a complete contiguous coverage of the whole of the city. This service is likely to take off in the 3rd quarter of this year. This service will fully confirm to GSM2+ Standards.This service will support teleservices, bearer services & supplementary services. This service will have Voice Mail Service and Short Message Service Cell broadcast. This service will have Intelligent Network platform. It will be possible to use Prepaid SIM, Personal Number, Virtual Private Network Service, Freephone Services, Premium Rate Service, Universal Number services by using this platform.